

IN THE CLAIMS

The pending claims and new claims are as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An end member for use with an implant for fusing bone comprising:

a first portion with a top surface ~~adepted~~ adapted and configured to engage the bone and having an perimeter edge and a first channel extending across at least a portion of the top surface from the perimeter edge for receiving a surgical instrument;

a second portion configured and dimensioned to be inserted into a bore of the implant;
and

a shoulder joining the first and second portions and sized to rest on an end edge of the implant when the second portion is inserted in the bore of the implant.

2. (Currently amended) An end member for use with an implant for fusing bone comprising:

a first portion with a top surface ~~adepted~~ adapted and configured to engage the bone and having an edge and a first channel extending from the edge for receiving a surgical instrument;

a second portion configured and dimensioned to be inserted into a bore of the implant;
and

a shoulder joining the first and second portions and sized to rest on an edge of the implant when the second portion is inserted in the bore of the implant,

wherein the top surface further comprises a plurality of teeth provided in a two dimensional array with the teeth being spaced apart from one another for interlocking with the bone.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The end member of claim 1 wherein the top surface is annular.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The end member of claim 1 wherein the top surface is oval.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) The end member of claim 1 wherein the top surface is a flat planar surface.

Claims 10-13 (Canceled)

14. (Original) The end member of claim 1 wherein the top surface has a second channel for receiving a surgical instrument.

15. (Original) The end member of claim 14 wherein the first and second channels run in an anterolateral direction.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The end member of claim 1 wherein the second portion comprises a plurality of tabs to secure the end member to the implant.

18. (Original) The end member of claim 17 wherein each of the plurality of tabs is resilient, flexing inward upon insertion of the second portion in the implant and flexing back outward to secure the end member to the implant.

19. (Previously amended) The end member of claim 1 wherein the end member is made of a metal.

Claims 20-24 (Canceled)